

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0109/003001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shigeru MURAMATSU Art Unit: 16
Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:
Filing Date: March 31, 2004
Title : CONTROL APPARATUS WITH OPERATOR MEMBER
CONTROLLABLE BY REACTIVE FORCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to his duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicant requests that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Please note that Japanese Patent Publication No. 10-177387 is discussed on page 1 of the specification. Please also note that the enclosed U.S. Patent No. 5,952,806 is the English language counterpart patent of Japanese Patent Publication No. 10-177387. An English language abstract of this Japanese reference is also enclosed.

This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

~~Randolph A. Smith~~
Req. No. 32,548

Date: March 31, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number Filed concurrently

Filing Date March 31, 2004

Applicants Shigeru MURAMATSU

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket

Attorney Docket Number 0109/003001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.*

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.